been drawn to a report which appeared in he 'Hindustan Times' dated September 13, 1988 to the effect that child exploitation remained unabated in the country;

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard;

(c) what are the laws in operation now prohibiting child labour in the country; and

(d) whether there is any machinery in the country to enforce the laws prohibiting child labour in the organized and unorganized sectors of the industry; if so, whether it is proposed to make that machinery more effective?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government is already aware of the problems of Child Labour in the country and has been taking necessary steps to tackle the problems. The employment of children is prohibited under Acts such as the Factories Act, 1948, Mines Act, 1952, the Plantations Labour Act 1951, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, the States' Shops and Commercial Establishments Acts; and in certain specified occupations and processes under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 etc. The responsibility of enforcing some of these Acts like the Factories Act, 1943 the Plantations Labour Act, 1951, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, the States' (Shops and Commercial Establishments) Acts, and in majority of areas under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 lies with the State Governments. The responsibility of enforcing the Mines Act, 1952 rests with the Central Government. The enforcement machinery set up by the appropriate Government under the various Acts are required to enforce compliance of the provisions of the Acts relating to child labour also. Central Government has been strictly enforcing the Acts falling within its sphere. The Central Government has also been urging the State Governments to strictly enforce the provisions of the Acts. The Government has also launched the National Child Labour Policy 1987 which includes enforcement of the laws pertaining to child labour, focussing general development programmes for benefitting working children and their families and project based plans of action for child labour.

Transfer of accommodation in the names of the dependants of retired Government employees

*130. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government employees occupying General Pool accommodation can get their accommodation transferred in the name of their eligible dependants after their retirement;

(b) whether it is also fact that other Government employees occupying accommodation in the special pools of various offices of the Government of India, cannot get their accommodation transferred in the name of their eligible dependants after retirement; if so, the rasons for the disparity in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to allow transfers of accommodation of the special pool employees to the names of their eligible dependants after their retirement; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Yes, Sir, subject to prescribed conditions.

(b) to (d) The special pool of accommodation of various offices of the Govt. of India is controlled by the respective offices. Rules|instructions for allotment of such accommodation|allied matters are also prepared by the respective offices. Such rules|provisions are framed by the respective offices keeping in view their special circumstances|requirements. It is for the respective offices to decide as to whether provisions to allow transfer of accommodation of the special pool em-

employees to the names of their eligible dependents after their retirement, may be made or not.

*131. [*Transferred to the 30th November, 1988*].

Remunerative price for lac in Bihar

*132. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to protect the growers of traditional cash crops aaginst adverse market conditions and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are aware that "Lac" is the main cash crop in the entire Chota Nagpur plateau in Bihar and that its growers have been put to severe hardships due to sharp decline in the price of lac in the domestic market whereas a handful of traders have been thriving on its export for the last several years;

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to ensure remunerative price for their produce; and

(d) what has been the role of the Indian Lac Research Institute, Ranchi in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) In case of traditional cash crops like cotton, jute, sugarcane, oilseeds etc. which have wide area coverage, the Government has been announcing the minimum support prices to protect the interest of farmers.

(b) and (c) Bihar (Chotanagpur area) is the major producer of Lac. The prices during the months of June to September, 1988 were lower as compared to the corresponding period last year. However, these prices are comparable to the normal production year of 1986.

Government has set up the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited to organise the marketing of tribal produce to ensure that the tribals realise a fair price for their produce.

(d) The Indian Lac Research Institute mainly undertakes research to evolve new technology to increase the productivity and identify the new uses for lac to increase its utilization.

Demonstrations to popularise modern farming in Tamil Nadu

*133. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of demonstrations, camps and workshops organised in Tamil Nadu under the drive to popularise modern farming in the state during the current year;

(b) whether any follow-up action has been institute to assess the results of such demonstrations; and

(c) whether Government are considering any other measures to educate the the Tamil Nadu farmers in relation to the scanty rainfall, hot and humid climate during major part of the year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

New Labour Welfare Schemes

*134. DR. MOHD HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the distinctive features of the new Labour Welfare Schemes prepared by Government;

(b) what would be the total amount of money proposed to be allocated for these schemes; and

(c) by when these schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) The following new Labour Welfare Schemes have been launched by the Ministry of Labour:

(i) Projects for Welfare of working children with a view to provide them employment generating programmes, following new Labour Welfare Schemes have formal and non-formal education, voca-